

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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47

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06 /025 W

----- 084288

R 101059Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6932

INFO SECDEF

JCS

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

COMUSMACTHAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 8358

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS, VN, LA

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL GOLDSMITH: POW/S/MIA'S

REF: VIENTIANE 8125

1. STAFFDEL GOLDSMITH AND CAPT. KNEALE DEPARTED  
VIENTIANE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, FOR BANGKOK.

2. STAFFDEL HAD EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S.  
MISSION PERSONNEL CONCERNED WITH POW/MIA MATTERS. IN  
ADDITION, WE SECURED APPOINTMENT FOR HIM WITH LPF  
ACTING DELEGATION CHIEF PHOUN SIPRASEUTH ON DECEMBER 1.  
(FYI: PHOUN IS BELIEVED TO BE FIFTH RANKING FIGURE IN  
CLANDESTINE LAO COMMUNIST PARTY.)

3. PHOUN TOLD GOLDSMITH THAT LPF DOES NOT HOLD ANY  
AMERICAN PRISONERS EXCEPT EMMET KAY. HE SAID LPF HAS  
BEGUN GATHERING INFORMATION ON AMERICAN POW'S/DIC'S  
WHICH WOULD BE PROVIDED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF JOINT  
COMMISSION, AS REQUIRED BY PROTOCOL. HE NOTED THAT  
POW/DIC QUESTION WAS ON FOUR-POINT AGENDA FOR JOINT  
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COMMISSION ALONG WITH NEUTRALIZATION OF VIENTIANE AND

OTHER URGENT MATTERS. COMMISSION WAS PRESENTLY DEVISING ITS PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS AND ORGANIZING ITSELF, AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SAY EXACTLY WHEN POW/DIC QUESTION WOULD BE ADDRESSED. LPF INTENDED TO IMPLEMENT ALL PROVISIONS OF PROTOCOL AND WOULD DO ITS BEST TO GATHER AND PROVIDE INFORMATION ON POW'S/MIA'S. SUCH INFORMATION COULD NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE BEFORE QUESTION WAS TAKEN UP BY JOINT COMMISSION.

4. STAFFDEL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFINGS AND OTHER ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY EMBASSY DURING THE VISIT.  
DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POW, MIA, CODELS, VISITS, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973VIENTI08358  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** VIENTIANE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731233/aaaaaydw.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION H  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** VIENTIANE 8125  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29-Nov-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <21-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** STAFFDEL GOLDSMITH: POW/S/MIA'S  
**TAGS:** MOPS, VS, VN, LA, US, LPF, (GOLDSMITH), (KAY, EMMET), (KNEALE), (PHOUN SIRPRASEUTH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005